



Energizing Rural Communities Prize

Cover Page

Phase One

May 2023

Project Title: **Solar. Thermal. Future**

Competitor: **SunCatch Ltd**

olga@sun-catch.com, +1-541-350-2756, <https://sun-catch.com/>, Evergreen, CO, 80439-8922

Location of primary benefits: 80452-0907, Idaho Springs, Clear Creek County, CO

Partner: **City of Idaho Springs**

Short Description: SunCatch is a startup company manufacturing and installing in-house engineered Concentrated Solar Thermal technology (CST) coupled with Thermal Energy Storage (TES). This technology was developed under SBIR federal grant with a mission to provide zero-emission renewable energy technology for rural communities and the Agricultural industry to increase their energy resilience and sustainability. Moving to the stage of technology commercialization, we have partnered with the City of Idaho Springs to research an opportunity to build a demo site in Idaho Springs that would benefit this rural community with free thermal energy while increasing its energy resilience and independence. While several options for solar-thermal technology implementation are still under consideration by the city council, we propose exploring the possibility of building a micro solar-thermal grid to supply heat and hot water to multiple facilities in historic Downtown Idaho Springs all at once. We anticipate a long-term partnership that will support this project from initial research, feasibility studies, engineering design, and permitting through the future manufacturing and installation of the solar-thermal system. Furthermore, this clean energy project will inspire trust and confidence in renewable energy technologies within other rural communities and will set a precedent for their future deployments throughout the country.

Link to video pitch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tsZLyuOQL8>

Project Members:

Team Lead Name: Olga Marinkina –Founder and President / SunCatch Ltd, Evergreen, CO

olga@sun-catch.com / +1(541)350-2756/ <https://www.linkedin.com/in/olgamarinkina/>

Project manager for SBIR Phase I and II projects, completed Tech Venture Accelerator for Women conducted by Colorado SBDC. Extensive experience in managing teams and projects. Skilled in solving work-related problems. Experienced in completion of contracts, supervising the company's financial status, establishing and maintaining relationships with city and state governments and governmental institutions. Strong documentation, organizational, analytical, planning, and reporting skills.

Team Member 2: Sergey Khlop–Vice President and Chief Engineer / SunCatch Ltd, Evergreen, CO

info@sun-catch.com / +1(720)557-1754/ <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sergeykhlop/>

Mechanical engineer, inventor, Principal Investigator for SBIR Phase I and II projects. An innovator experienced in the execution of projects from a concept to the final commercial-grade product. Created numerous innovations, coming up with technologies that were effective and inexpensive to produce. Significant experience in engineering design, DFM (design for manufacturability), solving engineering problems, and developing technological solutions.